**Bridgemere CE Primary School**

**Collective Worship Policy**



**‘A small rural school with a big Christian heart.’**

Legal Requirements:

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking

part in worship.

‘

**The Collective Worship Policy has been discussed and approved by the Staff and Governors**

To be reviewed **October 2019**

**Bridgmere CE Primary School**

Policy Statement:

At Bridgemere School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life.

Through this, and in the general ethos of the school, we seek to promote our mission statement- ‘A small ruralschool with a big Christian heart’

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together.

The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values:

We identify and hold true the values of reverence, wisdom, thankfulness, humility, endurance, service, compassion, trust, peace, forgiveness, friendship, justice, hope, creation and koinonia. These underpin our collective worship sessions and have been focal points in classrooms through Reflection Areas.

These values are embodied in the New Commandment that Jesus

gave us:

Matthew 22: v22-40

‘love your neighbor as yourself and do to others as you’d have them do to you.’

We also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

Organisation:

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children.

Our current worship plan is as follows:

Monday: Bible and Christian values focus

Tuesday: Hymn practice

Wednesday: Y6 and Ethos Council led focusing on the Christian Values

Thursday: Church Led – Vicar led / local lay preachers / Open the Book group

Friday: Celebration assembly

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship.

The assembly/worship should last approximately 15 minutes.

Worship plan

As a church school we follow a set plan for worship:

* **Call to worship –**

The children enter the hall quietly and sit and listen to the music that has been chosen for that day.

Staff stand/sit quietly at the side of hall.

Y6 children choose from a selection of quiet, thoughtful music

* **Greeting-**

The liturgy is said by the worship leader

‘The Lord be with you’

Pupils reply ‘And also with you’

* **The Word of God-**

Monday and Wednesday Bible readings / stories linked to the Church year of Christian Value focus

Thursday worship – Bible stories and themes led by church leaders

* **Engaging-**

Part of worship where we can join in: hear a story, perform a play, join in a dance or be asked to think about something

* **Response-**

Singing a song, reflection or prayer

* **Sending out-**

Worship leader: Blows out the candle and reminds children that the light and love of God is always with us

The children leave the hall quietly listening again to the days chosen music.

Prayer and Reflection:

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including hymn practice.

A range of prayers is used including the Lord’s Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner and are accompanied by a short time of quiet for individual reflection.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by all children and adults. A class or ‘end of day’ prayer is also said before the children leave school at the end of the school day.

Children are encouraged to write short prayers during reflection times and put into class prayer boxes or pinned onto prayer trees.

Sometimes these are related to a specific value, on other occasions this could be a personal prayer.

Other Faiths:

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting other faiths and cultures, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils’ beliefs. The class-led acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the Cheshire East Diocesan curriculum requirements.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring:

A file is kept, recording details of planning for worship. Staff will be asked to write up and evaluate collective worship each week. These will be in the Collective Worship book.

Visits and visitors:

As part of the curriculum, Bridgemere School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship.

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise.

Our local church:

St John’s , Doddington is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers’ Services.

Linda Lock

September 2017